

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are amended. Claims 1-6 remain in the Application. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0161560 to Abe et al. ("Abe").

To anticipate a claim, the Examiner must show that a single reference teaches each of the elements of that claim. Among other elements, amended Claim 1 recites "the first log likelihood ratio calculator and the second log likelihood ratio calculator incorporating channel estimation errors in calculating a log likelihood ratio of a positive signal (x^+) and a negative signal (x^-), respectively."

Applicants submit that Abe does not teach a first log likelihood ratio calculator for calculating a log likelihood ratio of a positive signal and a second log likelihood ratio calculator for calculating a log likelihood ratio of a negative signal. The positive signal and the negative signal are defined in the specification on page 3, lines 14-17. Rather, Abe discloses an equalizer 31 that delivers N log likelihood ratios, where N is the number of transmitters (i.e., the number of transmitted signals). Thus, each output of the equalizer 31 corresponds to a transmitter, instead of a positive signal or a negative signal. Thus, Abe does not teach each of the elements of amended Claim 1.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of Claim 1 are requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 3-6 are allowed and that Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 2 and 3 are amended to remove indefiniteness and to promote clarity. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments have placed Claim 2 in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claim 2 are requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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